

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 ACDA-05 MC-02 IGA-01 CIAE-00

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R 212121Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7910

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 1533

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS ES

SUBJ: THIRD COUNTRY ASSISTANCE TO FY 1976 PERSPECTIVE MAP RECIPIENTS

REF: STATE 082288

SECSTATE FOR PM/SAS/ACDA

SECDEF FOR ASD/ISA(SA)

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

1. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AN OCCASIONAL TRIP OR ATTENDANCE AT A SCHOOL NO THRID COUNTRY GRANT ASSISTANCE IS PROVIDED TO EL SALVADOR. ALL THIRD COUNTRY MILITARY ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN IN THE FORM OF CASH OR CREDIT MILITARY SALES.

2. EL SALVADOR'S UTILIZATION OF THIRD COUNTRY MILITARY ASSISTANCE MUST BE ANALYSED CONSIDERING THE EVENTS SINCE THE 1969 EL SALVADOR-HONDURAS WAR. THESE EVENTS WERE:

A. US MAP-MATERIAL PROGRAM TERMINATED AT END OF WAR IN 1969. NO FMS CREDIT OFFERED.

B. CASH US FMS CASES APPROVED FOR NON-WEAPON TYPE ITEMS DURING THE PERIOD 1969-1973 BASED ON EVEN-HANDEDNESS POLICY WITH HONDURAS.

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C. SMALL US MAP-MATERIAL PROGRAM (\$110K) APPROVED FOR *6 1974.

D. US FMS DIRECT CREDIT (\$500K) APPROVED FOR FY 1974.

E. DURING THE PERIOD SINCE 1969 MAP-TRAINING PROGRAM
CONTINUED BASED ON EVEN-HANDEDNESS WITH HONDURSA.

3. LIST OF MILITARY HARDWARE PURCHASED FROM THIRD COUNTRY SOURCES
SINCE 1970. () INDICATES NUMBER RECEIVED TO DATE.

| NOMENCLATURE | QUANTITY | SOURCE |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| MORTAR, 81MM, M-70-5 | 1100 | YUGOSLAVIA |
| MORTAR, 120 MM, M-70 | 100 | YUGOSLAVIA |
| HOWITZER, 105 MM, M-56 | 16 | YUGOSLAVIA |
| GUN, AA, 20MM | 36 | YUGOSLAVIA |
| JET FIGHTER, OURAGAN | 18 (9) | ISRAEL |
| JET TRAINER, MAGISTER CM 170 | 4 (3) | ISRAEL |
| STOL TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT, ARAVA | 4 (2) | ISRAEL |
| LAUNCHERS, ROCKET, 80MM | 800 | ISRAEL |
| BOMBS, MISC | 2,000 | ISRAEL |
| SUB MACHINE GUN, UZI | 200 | ISRAEL |
| COMMERCIAL VEHICLES, TTYOTA | 43 | JAPAN |
| COMMERCIAL VEHICLES VW | 15 | GERMANY |
| AMMUNITION, 7.62 MM | 1 M RDS | SPAIN |
| TACTICAL RADIOS | UNK | GREAT BRITAIN |

4. QUALITY OF THE ABOVE ITEMS IN MOST CASES SATISFACTORY.
HOWEVER, SPARE PARTS IN SOME CASES ARE NOT AVAILABLE AND CHANNELS
FOR IMMEDIATE REQUISITION OF SPARE PARTS EXCEPT FOR ISRAELI
AIRCRAFT DO NOT EXIST.

5. IT APPEARS THAT IN MOST CASES THE ABOVE EQUIPMENT WITHIN
PRICE AND AVAILABILITY CRITERIA MET THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS
OF THE GOES. HOWEVER IT IS ALREADY EVIDENT THAT SPARE PARTS ARE
GOING TO BE AN INCREASING PROBLEM OVER THE YEARS. SPECIFIC
DETAILS OF SOME EQUIPMENT, ALTHOUGH MINOR, HAS CAUSED TECHNICAL
PROBLEMS, E.G., YUGOSLAV 120MM MORTAR UTILIZES 6,000 MIL FIRE
CONTROL EQUIPMENT, RATHER THAN 6,400 MIL EQUIPMENT UTILIZED BY
OTHER EQUIPMENT INCLUDING YUGOSLAV HOWITZERS; OURAGAN FIGHTER
USES SPECIAL OIL NOT AVAILABLE FROM US SOURCES AND MUST BE
PURCHASED IN FRANCE.

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6. IT APPEARS THAT THIRD PARTY ARMS SALES TO EL SALVADOR ARE
BASICALLY COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH THE THIRD PARTY HAVING
LITTLE POLITICAL INTEREST IN EL SALVADOR OR CARE FOR THE EFFECT
THE ARMS SALE MIGHT HAVE. THIRD PARTY ARMS SALES TO DATE, WHILE
HARDLY CONGRUENT WITH OUR OBJECTIVES, ARE NOT NECESSARILY
INIMICAL TO THE REALIZATION OF THEM.

7. THE GOES HAS NEVER UTILIZED ALTERNATIVE SOURCES AS
MEANS TO INFLUENCE THE UNITED STATES TO EXTEND OR INCREASE
GRANT MATERIEL ASSISTANCE. GOES OFFICIALS HAVE CONTINUALLY
STRESSED THEIR PREFERENCE FOR US EQUIPMENT AND HAVE NOT EVEN
USED THREAT OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES IN NEGOTIATING SALES CONTRACTS
WITH US

8. THS MESSAGE WAS PREPARED BY USMILGP WITH FULL COORDINATION
OF EMBASSY STAFF.
CAMPBELL

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